Petroleum & Natural Gas have since informed that EIL and HPCL need no longer be considered for acquiring any interest in BHPV. However, BHEL, which has also conducted due-diligence study of BHPV, has shown interest in it subject to waiver of Government of India loan and interest, waiver of principal and interest by financial institutions/banks, funding of liabilities not provided for and transfer of existing land in possession of BHPV free of cost with waiver of stamp duty and registration charges.

Meetings were held with Consortium 'of Bankers for settlement of their dues outstanding with BHPV.

Meeting with the State Government of Andhra Pradesh was also held on 17.02.2007 to seek their assistance towards revival of BHPV. After the above issues are decided, the restructuring proposal will be placed before the Board for Reconstruction of Public Enterprises (BRPSE) for their recommendations. Based on recommendations of BRPSE, the matter will be placed before the competent Authority for a decision.

Statutory dues to employees

211. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a)whether it is a fact that there are long pending statutory dues by CPSU's to employees;

(b)if so, the details thereof; and

(c)the details of amounts released in financial year 2006-07 on this account?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) CPSEs are expected to pay the wages/salaries and statutory dues to their employees regularly out of their own resources. Government, however, provides financial assistance by way of non plan loan to certain CPSEs to supplement their efforts for payment of wages/salaries and statutory dues when they are unable to generate enough resources. As per the information available Government sanctioned Rs. 1804.21 crore during 2004-05 and 2005-06 for payment of wages, salaries and statutory dues.

(c) As per the information available, Rs. 317.70 crores have been sanctioned for payment of wages, salaries and statutory dues to sick/loss making CPSEs during the financial year 2006-07.